

sufficient to prevent MSAs from becoming a tax shelter. Even after the penalty is paid, the after-tax return to savings in an MSA would under many circumstances exceed the return to conventional savings.

Figure 1 [not printed in RECORD] shows the difference to a taxpayer in the 36 percent federal income tax bracket between saving \$3,000 of gross earnings under current law and saving the same amount in an MSA. In each case, the deposit is held at a three percent rate of interest. Under current law, the taxpayer would have \$1,742 in after-tax funds to deposit in a conventional savings account. (The \$3,000 gross earnings would be reduced by a 36 percent income tax, an effective state income tax of 4.5 percent after accounting for deductibility against federal taxes and a 1.45 percent Medicare tax. Taking away 41.95% of \$3,000 leaves \$1,742.) If those funds remain on deposit for 10 years with interest taxed yearly, they would grow to \$2,079. Under the MSA provision, however, the taxpayer would deposit the entire \$3,000 and interest would compound free of tax. After 10 years, the account would hold \$4,032. The taxpayer could withdraw the funds for purposes other than medical care, pay income tax and the 10 percent penalty on the withdrawn amounts, and have \$2,236 remaining.

In other words, after 10 years the value to the taxpayer of the funds saved in the MSA would exceed the value of conventionally-saved funds by 7.6%, even though a penalty was assessed for non-permissible use of the funds. If during those 10 years the taxpayer attained age 59½, no penalty would be assessed and the value to the taxpayer of the MSA savings would exceed the value of the conventional savings by more than 15 percent. As shown in Figure 1, the differential value of the MSA savings grows with the length of the holding period. After 20 years, an MSA withdrawal with penalty exceeds the value of conventional savings by 21 percent, while an MSA withdrawal after age 59½ exceeds the value of conventional savings by 30 percent. (It may be noted that the cost of the Treasury in foregone tax revenues also would increase over time, as growing amounts of savings are likely to be sheltered from taxation.)

REGULATORY BURDEN FACING SMALL BUSINESS

HON. DONALD A. MANZULLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 26, 1996

Mr. MANZULLO. Mr. Speaker, I am a proud supporter of the Small Business Growth and Administrative Act, now retitled the Small Business Regulatory Simplification and Enforcement Act. This bill, as contained in the Contract With America Advancement Act, will:

First, require agencies to publish easily understood guides to assist small businesses in complying with regulations;

Second, require agencies to provide informal, nonbinding advice, about regulatory compliance to small business;

Third, create a Small Business Administration [SBA] small business and agriculture enforcement ombudsman to allow citizens to confidentially comment on SBA personnel;

Fourth, create independent boards to provide a greater opportunity to track small business regulatory enforcement and policy; and

Fifth, require agencies to develop programs to waive and reduce civil penalties for violations by small businesses.

I might note, Mr. Speaker, that these provisions unanimously passed the Senate by a 100-to-0 vote on March 19.

I am attaching an article that appeared in the Chicago Tribune last week about Perry Moy, who lives in the district I am privileged to represent and owns a Chinese family restaurant. This article explains the effect of regulations on small business. Regulators in the executive branch should heed his insights, and I urge a similar resounding vote of confidence in small business by my colleagues in the House.

[From the Chicago Tribune, Mar. 18, 1996]

RESTAURATEUR AWAITS RELIEF FROM "WASTEFUL" REGULATIONS

(By Wilma Randle)

McHenry County Restaurant owner Perry Moy spends his days doing a lot more than running his eatery. He also has to handle a lot of paperwork, much of it dealing with various governmental regulations.

Moy is the owner of the Plum Grove Restaurant, family-owned eatery in McHenry. And, he says the paperwork he has to deal with is something he really could do without.

Moy also served as a delegate at last year's White House Conference on Small Business where the issue of government regulations was a major concern for small business owners.

Thus, Moy is among the nation's small business operators who are watching with interest a bill currently being debated in Congress that would relieve small business owners of much of what they say is the burden of governmental regulations.

The "Small Business Growth and Administrative Accountability Act" would require federal agencies to periodically review regulations to determine whether they need changing, according to a recent notice distributed by the National Federation of Independent Business, a Washington-based association representing more than 500,000 small business owners around the country.

The NFIB contends government regulations force employers to waste billions of hours each year filing paperwork as well as billions in costs related to complying with different regulations. "That time and money could be better used and spent expanding businesses and creating jobs," said Jack Faris, NFIB president.

Paperwork isn't costing Moy billions of work hours, but he says when you run a small business, any time that isn't devoted to running the business is time you really can't afford to waste.

"The amount of paperwork I have to deal with—just in my business—is immense," he said. "I have to deal with everything from employee taxes to the health and liquor regulatory agencies. And it's not just federal agencies. There are all these state and local regulations too."

So, he said, "Whatever changes can be made to relieve the paperwork and regulatory burden on small business I would welcome. It's truly one of the drawbacks about running a small business."

TRIBUTE TO DADE COUNTY'S OUTSTANDING WOMEN

HON. CARRIE P. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 26, 1996

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay tribute for Women's His-

tory Month by joining with the board of commissioners, department of parks and recreation and the citizens of Dade County in celebrating the achievements of 15 outstanding women.

Elizabeth Metcalf—a woman of lasting impact, who has touched many lives in her service as a psychologist, teacher, State representative and dedicated volunteer for many organizations such as the League of Women Voters, The Girl Scout Council of Tropical Florida, and the Dade Heritage Trust.

Olimpia Rosado—came to the United States as an exile from Cuba in 1961, and since that time she has dedicated her life to preserving Cuban heritage, writing a regular column for *Diario Las Americas*, supporting the Miami Dade Public Library Hispanic Branch, and her extensive volunteer service.

Francena Thomas—children have always been her first priority. Francena has served as a public schoolteacher, university administrator, and currently as a community liaison for Metro Dade Police. Francena has hosted radio and television programs, writes a column for the *Miami Times*, and has spent extensive time volunteering for agencies such as Metro-Miami Action Plan, Alternatives to Violence, and the Youth Crimewatch Advisory Council.

Frances Bohnsack—serving presently as executive director of the Miami River Marine Group, Fran has made a positive imprint in the south Florida community through her activities in many women's organizations such as NOW and the Feminist Alternative. She has also dedicated her life as a teacher, political activist, and advocate.

State Representative Larcenia J. Bullard—is a former educator and school administrator who has taken on a task to serve in the Florida Legislature, along with her extensive community involvement which includes the NAACP, South Dade Civitan Club, National Council of Negro Women, Women's Political Caucus, and the Miami-Dade Criminal Justice Council. Representative Bullard is widely respected for her leadership in the South Dade Community she represents.

Linda Dakis—Judge Linda Dakis has focused her professional and volunteer efforts toward the effects of domestic violence in our community. She has been a leader in dealing with this difficult issue, and is respected nationally for her extensive work through publications and media program that explore this pervasive evil called domestic violence.

Margarita Rohaidy Delgado—has served as a social worker, Florida Senate Legislative Aide and presently owns her own company, MRD Consulting. She has served the south Florida community through her involvement with many organizations, among them the City of Miami Off-street Parking Board, Dade County United Way Board of Trustees, and Metro-Dade County Health Policy Authority.

Tananarive Due—is well known through her career as a columnist for the *Miami Herald*, as a novelist, international scholar, Big Sister, and giving back to the community through the Miami NAACP ACT-SO Committee and Big Brothers-Big Sisters. She is the daughter of two infamous south Florida civil rights leaders.

Vickie Jackson—responding to the tragic domestic violence loss of her sister, Bridget Smith, Ms. Jackson founded the Domestic Violence Education and Prevention Project, Inc. She also volunteers her time to the Inner-City Children's Touring Dance Co. and many other arts programs for children.

Elizabeth Kaynor—has served tirelessly as the executive director for the City of Miami Commission on the Status of Women, and is the founding director for the Center for Continuing Education of Women at Miami-Dade Community College. She grasps every opportunity to work for women's advancement through education, communication, networking, and international exchanges.

Ivette Arteaga Morgan—is currently the assistant principal of the Miami Palmetto Adult Education Center, and has served as an elementary teacher, social worker, school administrator, and university faculty member. Dr. Morgan has provided leadership for bilingual and multicultural education programs, was a cofounder of ASPIRA, and has volunteered her time to many programs that encourage women's political participation.

Janice O'Rourke—as a leader in educational and women's organizations, this banking executive has lent her talents and energies to many causes such as the Miami Branch of the American Association of University Women and other organizations that focus on women's education and empowerment.

Deborah Reyes—serves as the president of Capital American Mortgage Co. and consulting and training group. She is committed to serving her home community through her church, the Girl Scouts Council of Tropical Florida, the Community Coalition for Women's History, and the National Board of the Girl Scouts of the USA.

Being honored posthumously are:

Meg O'Brien—was a woman of courage and determination who became the founder of the WLRN Radio Reading Service, which provides print-handicapped persons with 24 hours of news, literature, and general information. She shared her love for literature through the radio program "Cover to Cover," through the annual writer's conference in the Florida Panhandle, and through "The Late Show," a bedtime story initiative for detainees at Youth Hall.

Belen Saborido—immigrated to the United States and became a successful businesswoman and community leader, launching her own business in 1981. She worked tirelessly to support education, women's concerns, service to families and children, health care, and the arts.

NATIONAL DIABETES DAY

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 26, 1996

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, today is National Diabetes Day. Diabetes is a life-threatening, chronic disease, and a major public health issue that affects 16 million Americans directly and the rest of the population indirectly through its impact on medical care and costs.

Since the 1960's the prevalence of diabetes has tripled and it is reaching epidemic proportions. The National Institutes of Health estimates that about 1,800 new cases are diagnosed each day. Diabetes is by far the most widespread disease in our country today. In 1992 alone, cost of care for diabetes totaled \$92 billion.

The skyrocketing rise in diabetes is linked to four very important factors. First, an aging population. The aging of the baby boomer

population will ultimately increase that number even higher. Second, is the increasing degree of obesity. Third, is the fact that the population is living in a more sedentary lifestyle, and fourth is the fact that improved diagnosis techniques have isolated cases at earlier stages.

Those at risk for diabetes generally exhibit four different characteristics: they are over 45 years old, more than 120 percent above their ideal body weight, physically inactive, or have an immediate family member diagnosed with diabetes.

The toll of diabetes in death and human suffering is very great. Physicians are very critical to public education efforts. Physicians need to be more aware and sensitive to the fact that diabetes is a very serious disease. Many people are unaware they have the disease until they seek treatment for one of its crippling conditions. Some of these conditions include: stroke, blindness, heart disease, or even kidney disease.

Diabetes is the leading cause of blindness among those 20 to 74 years old. Also, as many as 20 percent of diabetics develop kidney disease. And diabetics are two to four times more likely to develop heart disease and strokes.

Diabetes is currently the fourth leading cause of death by disease. Moreover, about 169,000 Americans die each year from the disease—more than the number of people who die from AIDS or breast cancer.

We must realize that diabetes requires a lifetime of medical care and self-treatment. A person with diabetes must have access to supplies, equipment, and education. With these resources made available, a person with diabetes can greatly reduce any complications that cause any suffering associated with the disease.

Health care must be made a priority for people with diabetes. People with diabetes have great difficulty acquiring affordable health insurance that is needed to obtain medical care. Medicare and Medicaid, the Federal Government's two largest health care programs, do not provide coverage of supplies and medication necessary to avoid complications related to diabetes.

According to the American Diabetes Association, diabetes research is proven to save money. Studies taken show that for every dollar spent on medical research, \$13 is saved in health care costs. The majority of diabetes research is supported by the National Institutes of Health. Ironically, of the more than \$12 billion spent by the U.S. Government on medical research, only 3 percent is used to fund diabetes research. There must be a greater amount of support for medical research programs and also increased funding for diabetes research.

In regard to health care issues, we must have widespread support for legislation and efforts in the private sector that will ensure greater access to health care for people with diabetes.

I have recently become a cosponsor of two bills sponsored by Representative FURSE (H.R. 1073 and H.R. 1074) that seek to expand Medicare coverage of outpatient self-management training and access to blood testing strips. I have also signed on to a letter supporting the National Institutes of Health as a priority when considering a balanced budget.

We, Representatives in Congress, have the opportunity to improve the lives of millions of Americans with diabetes who rely on Medicare

for their health insurance. I look forward to working with the other Members of Congress, now and in the future, to improve the lives of people with diabetes.

TRIBUTE TO FRANKLIN MEISSNER

HON. JOSEPH P. KENNEDY II

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 26, 1996

Mr. KENNEDY of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to an outstanding individual, Mr. Franklin Meissner, of Weymouth, MA. Today, Mr. Meissner, the outgoing chairman of the board of the South Shore Chamber of Commerce, will be honored for his exceptional work. During his tenure, the South Shore Chamber had its most successful financial year and is now the second largest chamber of commerce in New England. As the 1995 chairman, Mr. Meissner made significant improvements to the administration of the chamber by reorganizing the Economic Development Organization and upgrading the communications and computer operations. He also instituted the "Elder-Preneur" of the year award, honoring older people who continue to contribute to society.

In addition to efforts at the chamber, Mr. Meissner has been very active in serving his neighbors and community. To list just a few of his civic service activities: he is a member of the Weymouth Rotary Club; is director of the South Shore Hospital, Health and Educational Foundation; and is director of the Bank of Braintree. Mr. Meissner is also a successful businessman, as president of Electro Switch Corp., he employs over 500 people in Massachusetts and North Carolina. What has been very evident in all of Mr. Meissner's activities is strong dedication and a commitment to success.

Mr. Speaker, it is indeed an honor and a pleasure for me to have this opportunity to recognize this outstanding individual. I am sure I speak on behalf of many members of the community who have worked with Mr. Meissner when I offer my heartfelt congratulations and best wishes on this special day.

163D ANNIVERSARY OF THE TREATY OF AMITY AND COMMERCE BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THAILAND

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 26, 1996

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 163d anniversary of the Treaty of Amity and Commerce between the United States and the kingdom of Thailand. This treaty, signed in 1833, is unique in that it is the first treaty of its kind between the United States and an Asian nation. It is a symbol of our enduring friendship and high respect for the Thai people.

For many years, the United States has had a close political and personal relationship with the people and the Government of Thailand. The Thais stood shoulder to shoulder with us in our long and principled battle against communism in Southeast Asia. Today, they continue as our ally in the war against illicit drugs.